

Michigan State University Faculty Emeriti Association

Steering Committee Meeting

8 January 2020 1:30 - 3:00pm

MSU Nisbet Building, Room 27

MINUTES

1. Chairperson Steve Harsh convened the meeting at 1:30 pm. Present were John Forsyth, Steve Harsh, Charles Gliozzo, David Long, Gary Stone, and Jane Vieth. Harsh welcomed Long and Vieth as new members.
2. There were no changes or additions to the agenda.
3. The minutes of the November 13, 2019 meeting of the Steering Committee were approved as distributed.
4. Projects and committee reports
 - a. Lecture Series – Charles Gliozzo received two suggestions for lecture speakers. Gliozzo will still attempt to schedule a January speaker as well as a February speaker.
 - b. Academic Governance and Health Care. – Gary Stone indicated that Human Resources is considering changing the university from a self-funded health insurance system to a Medicare Advantage system for which the university would pay the premiums. Major questions raised at the Health Care Committee included why and how could this approach save on the order of \$20M out of over \$125M annual cost, and what does a “disruption” of 7% mean when there are examples of the current prescription plan covering some drugs which are not covered by Medicare Part D.
 - c. Faculty Awards – Jenny Bond was not present.
 - d. Technology Projects – John Forsyth reported that Microsoft Outlook mail merge can't be used to broadcast email messages via the shared mailbox feature in the Microsoft Exchange Server email service. The broadcast messages would show the personal email address of the person using the shared mailbox. Techniques such as Bcc lists and Gmail accounts might be possible. With respect to the web site, the Andrew File System, which stores files used for the web site, is being retired, and work will be needed to use existing files under a new storage system.
 - e. Oral History Project – Jane Vieth agreed to pursue work on oral history.
 - f. Comments regarding new developments and trends in central administration – Cindy Leverich was attending due a class which met at the same time as the Steering Committee, so this discussion was delayed until the next meeting.

5 Old Business

- a. Retiree ID card update. The incident that prompted this question in late 2019 was probably a misunderstanding. ID cards issued since approximately 1999 have an appropriate transponder chip installed.
- b. Expanding the membership of the Steering Committee. Harsh listed several colleges from which the Steering Committee does not have a member. He suggested focusing on those to recruit for the Steering Committee.

6. New Business

- a. Need to find a replacement for University Council. Dave Long agreed to be the representative.
- b. What other university committees we should be have a member attending the meetings? No suggestions arose.
- c. What did we learn from the presentation by Trustee Byrum that has importance to faculty emeriti? The talk reviewed the process of the presidential search, described significant improvements to the campus and indicated a possible plateauing of investment caused by reaching the limits of the university's borrowing capacity.
- d. Discussion regarding new or expanded initiatives of our committee. Long had a well-received idea for tapping avocations of faculty outside their working professional specialty.
- c. Next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2020 at 1:30 pm in room 27 Nisbet Building.

7. Adjournment at 3:14 pm.

Submitted by John Forsyth